★★★

CASINOS TAKING IT OUTSIDE
VARIETY

X-GAMES RUNS GO EVEN HIGHER
SPORTS

TUESDAY
July 17, 2018

StarTribune

80° 62°
After all that heat, we could get used to this. **B6**

TOP NEWS

YOSEMITE WILDFIRE DOUBLES

The fire exploded to nearly 10,000 acres, closing roads leading into the national park. **A3**

Driver's license gets new look
Younger drivers go vertical; Minn. still doesn't comply with Real ID. **B1**

Democrats pin hopes on ACA
Midterm strategy caters to voters' dependence on health law. **A4**

Power restored in Puerto Rico
Yearlong repairs have drained the island's budget. **A3**

Antibiotics overprescribed
Urgent care clinics three times more likely to issue unneeded Rx. **A2**

LOCAL NEWS

Rains swamp town of Mora
Adults assess the damage while kids take to the flooded streets. **B1**

Mayor tries to nix power play
Frey opposes plan to give City Council more power over Mpls. police. **B1**

SPORTS

Berrios made to be All-Star
Twins pitcher puts in the work it takes to be a winner. **C1**

Athletics key in U search
Kaler's successor must see Gophers as integral, Chip Scoggins says. **C1**

BUSINESS

Apartment towers pitched
Developers want to build new rental projects, some up to 30 stories tall. **D1**

VARIETY

Singer carries flawed 'Carmen'
Mezzo-soprano is bright spot in Mill City's summer production. **E1**

HAVE YOU HEARD?
Airlines find fliers are willing to pay more for roomier seats as "premium economy" options in demand. **D1**

Trump backs Putin, doubts U.S. intel

PABLO MARTINEZ MONSIVAIS • Associated Press

FACE TO FACE IN HELSINKI
President Donald Trump and Russian President Vladimir Putin shook hands before their meeting. At a news conference with Putin, Trump condemned the U.S. investigation of Russian election interference as "a disaster for our country."

He took sides with a foe on foreign soil, upending U.S. policy

By PHILIP RUCKER and ANTON TROIANOVSKI • Washington Post

HELSINKI, FINLAND - President Donald Trump handed Russian President Vladimir Putin an unalloyed diplomatic triumph during their summit here Monday as he refused to support the collective conclusion of U.S. intelligence agencies that Russia had interfered in the 2016 U.S. presidential election.

Trump's warm rhetorical embrace of Putin, who he said had given him an "extremely strong and powerful" denial that Russia assaulted America's democracy, marked an extraordinary capstone to the first formal meeting between the current leaders of the world's nuclear superpowers and sparked trepidation and horror among many in Washington and around the globe.

At a remarkable 46-minute joint news conference inside the Finnish presidential palace, Trump would not challenge Putin's claim that the Russian government played no role in trying to sabotage the U.S. election, despite the Justice

See **TRUMP** on A6 ►

GOP House Speaker Paul Ryan
"There is no moral equivalence between the United States and Russia."

Sen. John McCain
"One of the most disgraceful performances by a U.S. president in memory."

GOP Sen. Susan Collins
"Untenable and at odds with the forceful response this moment demands."

President gets harsh rebuke from some GOP lawmakers

By SHERYL GAY STOLBERG and NICHOLAS FANDOS • New York Times

WASHINGTON – Republicans across the ideological spectrum rebuked President Donald Trump after Monday's extraordinary news conference with President Vladimir Putin of Russia, with House Speaker Paul Ryan admonishing Trump and declaring, "There is no moral equivalence between the United States and Russia."

Sen. John McCain called it "one of the most disgraceful performances by an American president in memory."

Ryan was joined by other GOP congressional leaders — including Sen. Mitch McConnell, the Senate majority leader — whose reactions ranged from disappointment to shock at the way Trump publicly dismissed the conclusions of his own national intelligence director that Russia interfered in the 2016 presidential election, blamed both the U.S. and Russia for poor relations between the two countries, and seemingly invited Russia to cooperate with

See **REACTION** on A6 ►

Russian charged: She tried to set up secret Trump-Putin meeting during 2016 campaign, prosecutors say. **A4**

BDE MAKA SKA OFFICIALLY REPLACES LAKE CALHOUN

By TIM HARLOW • tim.harlow@startribune.com

Lake Calhoun is officially off the map.

The federal government's approval of its name change was the last hurdle needed for the body of water in south Minneapolis to be recognized by its original Dakota name: Bde Maka Ska.

It also ends a yearslong controversy propelled by the national movement to remove monuments tainted by racism. The lake's former namesake was an ardent supporter of slavery.

"What this means is that any maps created by the government will say Bde Maka Ska instead of Lake Calhoun," said Robin Smothers, a spokeswoman for the Minneapolis Park Board, which also pushed for the change.

The Minnesota Department of Natural Resources approved the name change in January. The U.S. Board of Geographic Names put its stamp of approval on the change last month.

See **LAKE** on A10 ►

JEFF WHEELER • jeff.wheeler@startribune.com
With the Minneapolis skyline behind them, kids jumped off the raft near Thomas Beach and into Bde Maka Ska.

Release of serial rapist upheld

But the state says it will appeal to Minnesota Supreme Court.

By CHRIS SERRES
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Thomas R. Duvall, one of the most violent sex offenders in state history, is one step closer to being released after spending more than 30 years locked up for a series of brutal rapes of teenage girls.

In a ruling issued Monday, a three-judge panel of the Minnesota Court of Appeals upheld a lower-court ruling in favor of Duvall's petition for conditional discharge from the Minnesota Sex Offender Program (MSOP). The judges determined the state failed to prove "by clear and convincing evidence" that Duvall did not meet the standards for provisional release into the community.

Human Services Commissioner Emily Piper, whose agency oversees the sex offender program, has already vowed to appeal the ruling to the Minnesota Supreme Court, setting the stage for another round of legal arguments over Duvall's future.

"I have grave concerns about this decision," Piper said in a written statement. "Three experts have previously testified that Thomas Duvall is not ready for life in the community and that he presents far too great a risk to public safety. I share that view and

See **DUVALL** on A10 ►

Thomas Duvall has been locked up for more than 30 years for a series of brutal rapes.

Deal helps get SWLRT back on track

Dispute over 15-mile stretch nearly derailed the project.

By JANET MOORE
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A dispute between a freight rail operator and Twin Cities transit planners is coming to an end, clearing one of the biggest obstacles to construction of the Southwest light-rail line, the largest public works project in the state.

A pact struck with Glencoe-based Twin Cities & Western Railroad (TC&W) would allow light rail and freight trains to share part of the nearly 15-mile corridor between downtown and Eden Prairie.

The deal still needs final approval from the Metropolitan Council, Hennepin County Regional Railroad Authority and the federal Surface Transportation Board, but officials emphasized its importance in announcing it Monday.

"Without an agreement, this project could not go forward," said Hennepin County Commissioner Peter McLaughlin, who was involved in mediation sessions with the railroad.

See **SWLRT** on A10 ►